

Response
Serial No. 09/763,882
Attorney Docket No. 001084

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (canceled)

Claim 2 (previously presented): The breast pad as recited in claim 11, wherein said concave grooves curve along said expansion direction of said elastic members.

Claim 3 (previously presented): The breast pad as recited in claim 2, wherein said concave grooves curve so as to protrude toward a central portion of said main body along said expansion direction of said elastic members.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The breast pad as recited in any of claims 11, 2 and 3, further comprising a surface member which comes in contact with the user's breast ~~a user's skin~~, said surface member being inwardly disposed on said liquid-absorbing member and a cushion member disposed between said liquid-absorbing member and said surface member.

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Claim 5 (previously presented): The breast pad as recited in claim 4, wherein said surface member is provided with said concave grooves around a nipple-contact portion of said surface member.

Claim 6 (canceled)

Claim 7 (previously presented): The breast pad recited in claim 12, wherein said surface member is folded outwardly at the edge portion so as to embrace said liquid-absorbing member and said elastic members.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The breast pad recited in claim [[12 or]] 7, wherein said elastic members are [[is]] fixed between said liquid-absorbing member and said folded surface member, or between said folded surface member and said waterproof member, in a state in which said elastic members are sandwiched therebetween at the edge portion of said main body, and wherein the elastic members are not fixed to the main body at longitudinal ends thereof.

Claim 9 (previously presented): The breast pad recited in claim 8, wherein said liquid-absorbing member is formed to be smaller than said waterproof member and said surface member at a region in which said elastic members are terminated, and wherein said elastic members are not fixed to the waterproof member and the surface member at the region.

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Claim 10 (previously presented): The breast pad recited in claim 12 or 7, wherein, approximately at an expanding center of said elastic member on side edge portion of said main body, said waterproof member has an area not fixed to said liquid-absorbing member and/or said surface member.

Claim 11 (currently amended): A breast pad comprising:

a main body having a substantially round shape contacting a user's breast, the main body having an edge portion including a first edge and a second edge opposed to the first edge, the main body comprising:

a liquid-absorbing member;

a waterproof member provided ~~laminated~~ outwardly on the liquid-absorbing member;

a first elastic member disposed at the first edge;

a second elastic member disposed at the second edge, and

a pair of concave grooves provided between the first elastic member and the second elastic member, extending in an expansion direction of the first elastic member and the second elastic member.

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Claim 12 (currently amended): A breast pad comprising:

a main body having a substantially round shape, having an edge portion including a first edge and a second edge opposed to the first edge, the main body comprising:

a surface member, wherein the surface member contacts a user's breast ~~[[skin]]~~;

a liquid-absorbing member having a first surface and a second surface, the first surface being provided ~~laminated outwardly~~ on the surface member;

a waterproof member provided ~~laminated outwardly~~ on the second surface of ~~the~~ liquid-absorbing member;

a first elastic member disposed at the first edge; and

a second elastic member disposed at the second edge,

wherein the surface member is extended to the second surface of ~~[[cover]]~~ the liquid-absorbing member at the edge portion.